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SB 1795

RELATING TO DISTRICTING AND CLASSIFICATION OF LANDS

Statement to
Senate Committee on Economic Development
Public Hearing 9 February 1978

By
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Doak C. Cox, Environmental Center

SB 1795 proposes to amend HRS 205-2, the section dealing with "Districting and classification of lands." It does not represent an institutional position of the University.

The purpose of SB 1795 is to specify those types of agricultural land for which the "greatest possible protection" should be given in the decisions of the Land Use Commission. This purpose is valid, and the means proposed are in general appropriate. However, we call attention to the fact that not all "other important agricultural land" has "a high capacity for intensive cultivation", some of this other land having slopes as great as 35 percent, thus not being amenable to intensive cultivation even if important.

We suggest deletion of the words "to these lands with a high capacity for intensive cultivation; and, specifically, those".